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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rural
Development
Administration

The USDA Rural Development Administration (RDA) has various programs available to aid in the development of rural America. RDA programs are divided into three categories: Water and Waste Disposal, Business and Industry, and Community Facilities. The following is a summary of these programs and their FY93 funding levels.

I. Water and Waste Disposal

Water and Waste Disposal (WWD) Loans

Purpose: To develop water and waste disposal (including solid waste disposal and storm drainage) systems in rural areas and towns with a population not in excess of 10,000. The funds are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, special-purpose districts, Indian tribes, and corporations not operated for profit. RDA also guarantees water and waste disposal loans made by banks and other eligible lenders.

Funding Level: \$600,000,000
 (direct loans)
 \$35,000,000
 (guaranteed loans)

Additionally, under the Water and Waste Disposal Loan Program, funds have been made available to cover costs resulting from natural disasters such as Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki and Typhoon Omar. Funds are available to the same qualifying entities that are eligible under the regular program.

Funding Level: \$35,500,000

Received by:

Indexing Branch

Water and Waste Disposal Grants

Purpose: To reduce water and waste disposal costs to a reasonable level for rural users. Grants may not exceed 75 percent of eligible project costs. The same types of applicants are eligible as for loans. The funding includes \$7,300,000 for technical assistance and training grants and \$25,000,000 for grants to the colonias along the U.S. - Mexico border.

Funding Level: \$390,000,000

Additionally, under this grant program, funds have been made available to cover emergency repairs resulting from natural disasters such as Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki and Typhoon Omar. Funds are available to the same qualifying entities that are eligible under the regular program.

Funding Level: \$25,600,000

Technical Assistance and Training Grants

Purpose: To provide funding to nonprofit organizations for technical assistance and training on a wide range of issues relating to the delivery of water and waste disposal service.

Funding Level: \$7,300,000
(This funding is part of the WWD grant appropriation.)

Solid Waste Management Grants

Purpose: To provide technical assistance and training to nonprofit organizations and public bodies to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources and improve planning and management of solid waste facilities. This assistance is available in rural areas and towns with a population not in excess of 10,000.

Funding Level: \$3,000,000

Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants

Purpose: To assist rural communities that have had a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water. Grants can be made in rural areas and cities or towns with a population not in excess of 5,000 and a median household income not in excess of 100 percent of a State's nonmetropolitan median household income. Grants may be made for 100 percent of project costs. The maximum grant is \$500,000 when the significant decline in quantity or quality of water occurred within 2 years, or \$75,000 to make emergency repairs and replacement of facilities on existing systems.

Funding Level: \$10,000,000

Additional funds are available in rural areas and cities and towns, with a population not in excess of 15,000, to cover costs that are a consequence of natural disasters such as Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki and Typhoon Omar.

Funding Level: \$15,400,000

Rural Water Circuit Rider Technical Assistance

Purpose: To provide technical assistance for the operation of rural water systems. The RDA, through contracting, has assisted rural water systems with day-to-day operational, financial, and management problems. The assistance may be requested by officials of rural water systems

or the USDA Farmers Home Administration (FmHA)/RDA. The program complements RDA's loan "supervision" responsibilities.

Funding Level: \$4,242,000

II. Business and Industry

Business and Industrial (B&I) Guaranteed Loans

Purpose: To improve, develop, or finance business, industry, and employment, and improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities, including pollution abatement and control. This objective is achieved through bolstering the existing private credit structure with guarantees on quality loans which will provide lasting community benefits. It is not intended that the guarantee authority be used for marginal or substandard loans or to "bail out" lenders having such loans. This type of assistance is available only to businesses located in areas outside the boundary of a city of 50,000 or more and its immediately adjacent urbanized area.

Funding Level: \$100,000,000

Additional funds are available to guarantee loans made by private lenders to cover costs arising from the consequences of natural disasters such as Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki, Typhoon Omar, and certain microburst wind occurrences. These loans are available in both rural and nonrural areas and, in addition to purposes authorized under the regular B&I program, may be extended to businesses engaged in agricultural production, recreation, and tourism that are ineligible for regular Business and Industry loans.

Funding Level: \$305,000,000

Intermediary Relending Program Loans

Purpose: To finance business facilities and community development projects not within the outer boundary of any city having a population of 25,000 or more. This is achieved through loans made by RDA to intermediaries that provide loans to ultimate recipients for business facilities and community development in a rural area.

Funding Level: \$32,500,000

Additional funds are available for intermediaries that will make loans for costs that are a consequence of natural disasters such as Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki and Typhoon Omar.

Funding Level: \$15,500,000

Alcohol Fuels Credit Loan Guarantees

Purpose: To provide loan guarantees to assist producers of alcohol fuel in designated emergency areas with the purchase of grain. This type of assistance is available only to cooperatives located in areas outside the boundary of a city of 50,000 or more and its immediately adjacent urbanized area.

Funding Level: \$30,000,000

III. Community Facilities

Community Facilities Loans

Purpose: To construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services in rural areas and towns with a population of 20,000 or less. The funds are available to public entities such as municipali-

ties, counties, special-purpose districts, Indian tribes, and corporations not operated for profit. RDA also guarantees community facility loans made by banks or other eligible lenders.

Funding Level: \$100,000,000
(direct loans)
\$100,000,000
(guaranteed loans)

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Loans

Purpose: To provide loan assistance to sponsoring local organizations in authorized watershed areas for improvements in a watershed project. There is no population requirement for this program.

Funding Level: \$4,000,000

Resource Conservation and Development Loans

Purpose: To provide loan assistance to local sponsoring agencies in authorized areas where acceleration of a program of resource conservation, development, and utilization will increase economic opportunities for local people. There is no population requirement for this program.

Funding Level: \$600,000

Rural Business Enterprise Grants

Purpose: To assist public bodies and nonprofit corporations to finance and facilitate development of small and emerging private business enterprises located in areas outside the boundary of a city of 50,000 or more and its immediately adjacent urbanized area.

Funding Level: \$20,750,000

Applications:

These programs were formerly operated by the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). Since the newly created RDA does not yet have its field structure in place, FmHA continues to administer the programs at the local level. Detailed information and applications for financial assistance are available through local FmHA offices.

All applications are considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, or physical or mental handicap of the members of the groups applying for assistance (provided the applicant has the capacity to enter into a legal contract), and service must be extended on the same basis.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Rural Development Administration
Program Aid 1504
January 1993

RDA REGIONS



★ Regional Office